

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please insert the attached one page abstract at the end of the application (abstract attached).

Please insert the following heading immediately prior to line 1 on page 1:

1. Technical Field

Please insert the following heading immediately prior to line 3 on page 1:

2. Related Art

Please replace the paragraph beginning on line 3 on page 1 with the following rewritten paragraph:

[[The]] JP-A 57046048 [[infers]] shows a rectangular piston ring, when viewed in cross-section, having a thermal sprayed layering on the basis of molybdenum. The faces of the piston ring are equipped with a protective layer of [[C]]chrome.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on line 11 on page 1 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Even where the JP-A 57046048 already offers a chromed face area with a rectangular ring, this problem cannot simply be put off onto trapezoidal formed faces in connection with operating surfaces having a sprayed layering. This is essentially based on the penetration of the acidic [[C]]chrome electrolyte into the layering of the operating surface, resulting in the possibility of damage or dissolving of the operating surface layering. In this respect additional research is needed.

Please insert the following heading immediately prior to line 17 on page 1:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Please replace the paragraph beginning on line 9 on page 2 with the following rewritten paragraph:

~~Advantageous further developments of the piston ring as presented in this invention may be gathered from the representational sub-claims provided.~~ The piston

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ring can ~~hereby represent~~ have a rectangular cross-section as a standard configuration, where variations may also occur, such as where the trapezoidal forming of the face area may be possible.

Please remove the paragraph beginning on line 19 of page 2 and ending on line 20 of page 2 in its entirety.

Please insert the following heading immediately prior to line 15 on page 3:

THE DRAWINGS

Please replace the paragraph beginning on line 15 on page 3 with the following rewritten paragraph:

~~The subject of this invention is presented on the basis of the execution examples in the drawing, and is described as follows. They depict:~~ Embodiments of the invention are illustrated in the drawings, in which:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on line 17 on page 3 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Figures 1 through 3 show cross-sectional views of three alternative~~Varying execution~~ forms of surface area layered trapezoidal piston rings; and

Please replace the paragraph beginning on line 19 on page 3 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Figure 4 shows a cross-sectional view of a~~operating~~ surface layered piston ring according to a fourth alternative. ~~in cross-section~~

Please replace the paragraph beginning on line 1 on page 5 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Figure 4 shows a piston ring 1' ~~in analog perspective~~ as described in figures 1 and 3, having an operating surface 2 as well as an upper face area and a lower face area 3, 4. The operating surface 2 is layered with a thermal spray layer 11 in accordance with the HVOF-procedures, for example, on the basis of TiC layering. The piston ring 1' has a

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rectangular cross-section. The face areas 3, 4 exhibit a galvanic isolated chrome layer 12, 13.